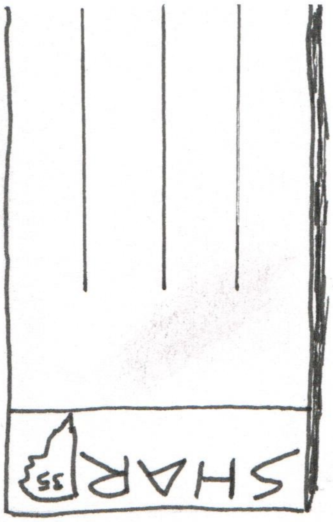
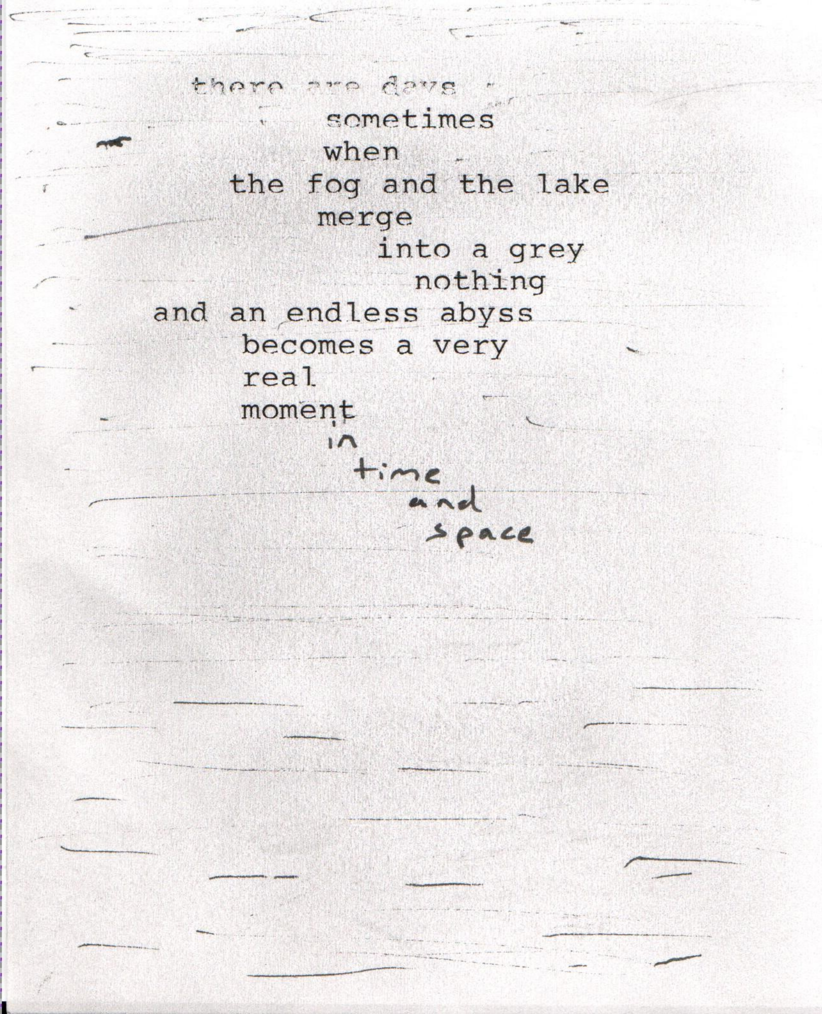


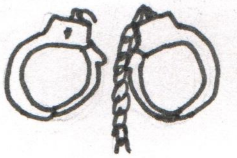
"Fight on, my men,' says Sir Andrew
Barton,
'I am hurt, but I am not slain;
I'll lay me down and
bleed a while,
And then I'll rise and
fight again.'"

-The Balled of Sir Andew Barton

Thomas Vose CC-BY-NC 2/21/25
trvose@hotmail.com



there are days
sometimes
when
the fog and the lake
merge
into a grey
nothing
and an endless abyss
becomes a very
real
moment
in
time
and
space

c talk

"Cheese it!" - Best guess is that it's a corruption of "cease."

Fuzz - another uncertain one. Dates back to 1929 - possibly a corruption of "fuss," or a reference to police radius' static.

Bobbies - reference to Sir Robert Peel, who created London's police force. "Peelers" comes from him, too.

Paddy wagon - from an ethnic slur for the Irish, who comprised a lot of officers at the time.

Taser - is actually an acronym - "Thomas A. Swift's Electric Rifle."

Espantoon - Baltimore cops are unique in using these barrel-headed batons.

Copper/Cop - uncertain, but likely from Latin "capere", which passed into English as "cop" - "grab, snatch, steal" - so someone who grabs you off the street.

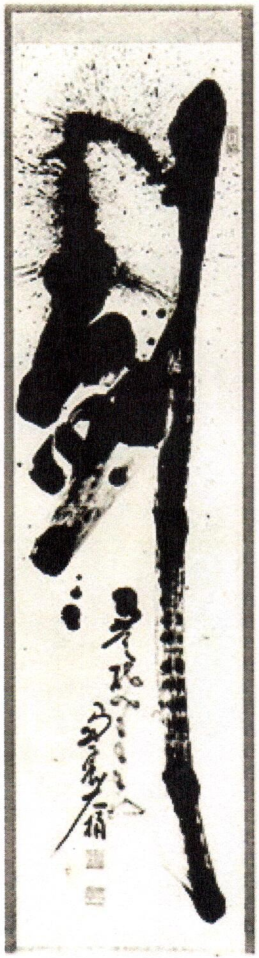
When shit gets real:

BREW UP.

Make yourself a cup of tea (or coffee, hot chocolate, whatever) - actions you know how to take, that result quickly in a completed goal that gives you a measure of comfort. This can help stabilize your mindset and give you room to think calmly about next steps.

And in an actual survival situation, bringing things to make tea in a kit gives you access to fire (meaning heat and a rescue signal), clean water, a clearer mind and a caffiene boost. And you can take a tea kit anywhere without looking like a survivalist nutjob.

(Credit to Stuart Goring)

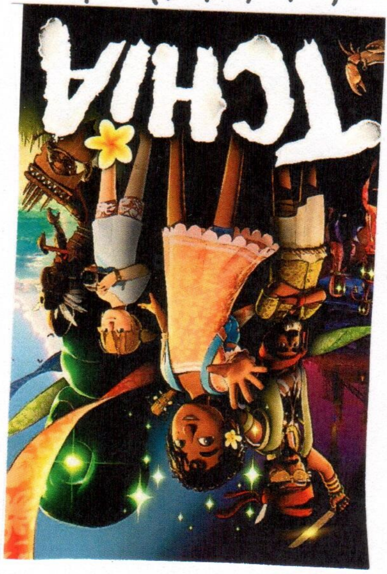


"Sword"

Kasumi Buncho

Shōwa period

You Should Play:



This is an exceptionally well done adventure made by a small team and grounded in the culture of New Caledonia - a culture unfamiliar to many (myself very much included), which makes discovering it all the more wonderful.

Tchia, our heroine, explores her home islands via boat, glider, or just launching herself from a swaying tree (a great mechanic). She can also possess (and yes, pet) a wide variety of objects and animals and use magic based on a fully playable ukelele.

---

there is an AI called

DebunkBot

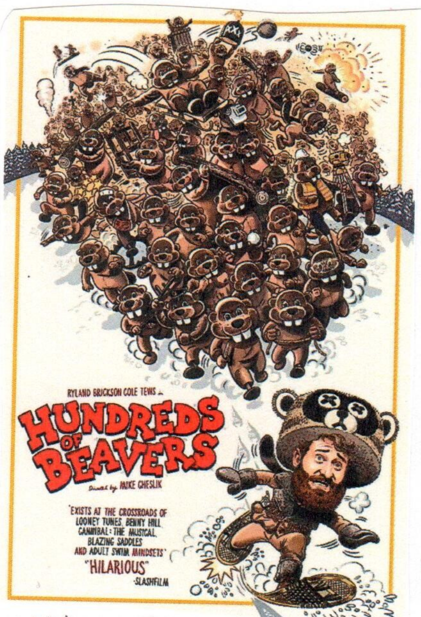
whose purpose is to refute users' conspiracy theories.

Users put in their conspiracy theories, and the AI gives counterarguments and evidence demonstrating why they're wrong. Supposedly, it works for some.

Do people prefer evidence (however spuriously sourced) from a "dispassionate" algorithm? Do they want to avoid losing face in arguing with a flesh-and-blood person?

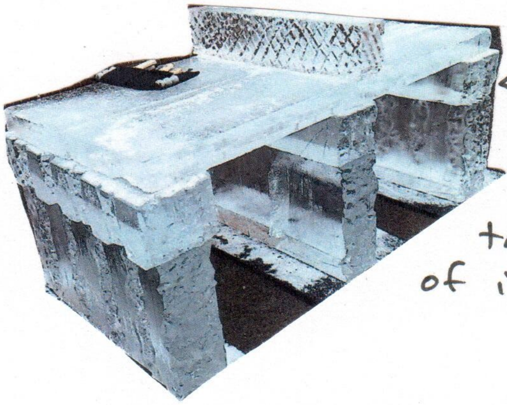
I'm genuinely unsure whether this is a good or bad thing in balance, and it's causing a lot of cognitive dissonance.

You (ABSOLUTELY) Should Watch


RYLAND BRICKSON COLE TEWS
HUNDREDS OF BEAVERS
Directed by MIKE CHESLIK
"EXISTS AT THE CROSSROADS OF LOONEY TUNES, BENNY HILL, CANNIBAL: THE MUSICAL, BLAZING SADDLES AND ADULT SWIM MINDSETS"
"HILARIOUS" SLASHFILM

I guess this could actually use the rather trite adjectives of "zany" or "madcap" unironically. Whatever descriptor you use - holy shit, it's great.

It's a (mostly) silent black and white movie, set in woods in which all of the animals are represented by people in terrible costumes (the horse is a real standout). It's surprisingly long and involved, too, and the endless stream of gags is genuinely hilarious. Best movie I've seen in years, hands down.



seen today - a ping-pong table made of ice.

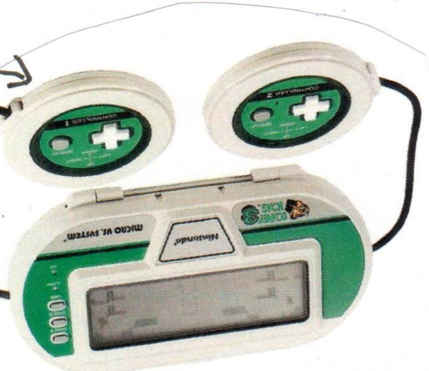
Select comment:

1. "Pretty cool, huh?"
2. "I bet that makes for a chill game!"
3. "Does it use snowballs?"
4. "Don't make me pun-ch you in the face for writing these!"

Dick van Dyke

Was originally supposed to host "The Price is Right" -

- but he thought it was a stupid concept and backed out.


Nintendo
MICRO VS. SYSTEM
DONKEY KONG 3
CONTROLLER 1
CONTROLLER 2

this is just adorable.

Nintendo had the Game and Watch LCD handheld systems, of course - like the Tiger crap I used to have as a kid, they each played one game (badly). What I didn't know was that they also had a few two-player variants - the Micro Vs. System, released in 1984.

The whole unit opened on a hinge, concealing two tiny controllers. Only three games were made - Donkey Kong 3 (pictured), Boxing, and Donkey Kong Hockey.

I can imagine those being amazing on long '80s car trips...

so JJ got his first vehicle - a Ford Ranger 4x4

buying used cars really sucks

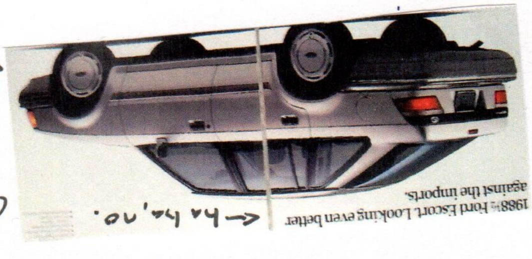
and buying used cars for someone else that is counting on you for advice sucks way more

and buying used cars in an area where everything has some measure of rust and associated uncertainty is the cherry on top

But he's happy

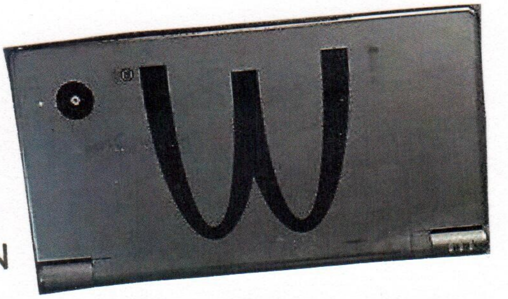
and he earned it, fair and square

and that's what counts.



← ha ha, no.

(and, it's better than my first car...) →

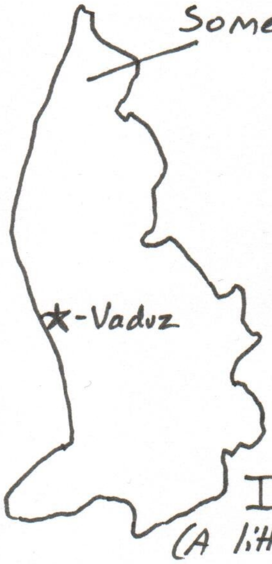


Nintendo developed a McDonald's-branded DS ←

It was meant to go with the "game" McDonalds developed for its employees in Japan - the eCrew Development Program (probably) which was sent out to all Japanese McDonalds in 2010.

It was meant as training software, not to be released to the public, and was filled with training tips, videos, and scenarios for new employees.

And now it costs $1500+ for a copy...

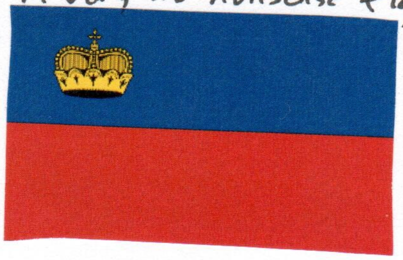


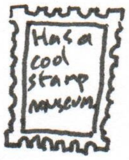
Somehow crams in more than one city, despite being not as big as Washington, DC!

IECHTENSTEIN

(A little bit about a little place)

A very no-nonsense flag.




Has a cool stamp museum

as well as

a Tolkien memorabilia museum.

Käsknöpfle - dumplings with cheese & fried onions with apple puree.

Not big fans of the Czech Republic or Slovakia due to old property arguments...

Switzerland works with them a lot (tax havens have to stick together)

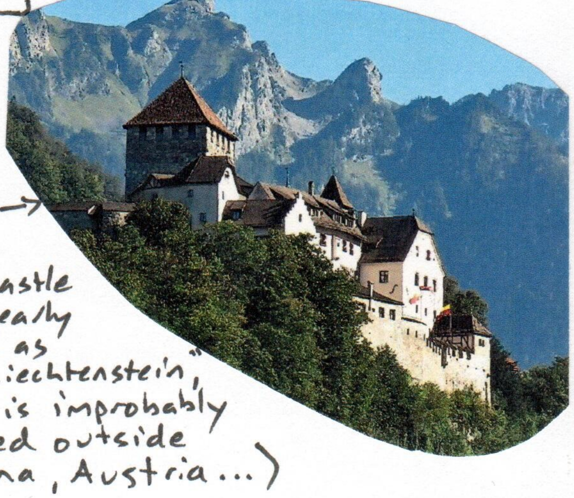
Makes a lot of false teeth!

Only has ≈40.000 people (a bit more than my county) and is 1/10 my county's size.

(Burnout: Paradise has a bigger area)

Has more workers than residents, thanks to people who commute across the border.

Has some pretty sweet ski resorts.

Has royals, who live in a castle → (though said castle isn't nearly as cool as "Castle Liechtenstein", which is improbably located outside Vienna, Austria...)